

THE TIMES - DISPATCH  
DAILY - WEEKLY - SUNDAY

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HOW TO CALL TIMES-DISPATCH.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 1908.

THE CANNON BOOM.

A loud report of the Cannon boom comes from Springfield, Ill., where the Republican State convention has been in session. There were several heated episodes of the meeting, which served to prevent its appearing wholly perfunctory. At one stage of the proceedings there was an impromptu adjournment, caused by the burning of a large hotel where many of the delegates were stopping. The tariff question was the subject of warm discussion. The respective merits of twelvedum and twelvedee were argued at length. Some favored the use in the platform of the expression "tariff adjustment," while others thought that "tariff revision" was the most taking phrase. It was explained that adjustment might be construed as the raising of some schedules, as well as the lowering of others, while revision was commonly taken to mean a general reduction. Finally, however, an emissary arrived straight from the old big gun, and the word revision went into the platform like a shot.

This revision scheme, as outlined in the platform, is to smack strongly of perfection. It is to partake somewhat of the nature of an adjustment, and is to be accomplished with "the greatest possible gain and the least possible loss." It is expected to remove inequalities, prevent injustice and be based upon scientific investigation. This investigation will be conducted by the appropriate committees of Congress, assisted by outside experts. There are to be minimum and maximum rates, the former for home consumption, so to speak, giving full protection, and the latter to be invoked to retaliate upon foreign countries which discriminate against American produce.

Apparently this Utopian scheme was discharged whole from the veteran Lowitzer himself. If so, this old prince of standpatters has read the signs of the times well enough to know that something must be said in favor of tariff revision, and has compromised by inspiring an oracular utterance, which he hopes may be incorporated into the national Republican platform, and be vaguely broad enough for him to stand upon as a presidential candidate.

We cannot believe, however, that the voters of this country can be persuaded to follow such a dim and fatuous will-o'-the-wisp. It gives no assurance that the general average of rates will be reduced in the slightest. We are left to guess whether the protection idea or the revenue feature will predominate. We are given no hint as to the time when this symmetrical beautiful scheme will be ready for the consideration of Congress, nor do we hear any prophecy as to the lapse of years before the people may expect to reap the benefit of this ideal dispensation.

Nevertheless, upon the fabric of this finespun dream tissue has been erected a new boom for the old smoothbore. He was acclaimed in the Springfield convention as the apostle of reform and the prolific parent of wholesome legislation. He was credited with public and private virtues too exalted for mere language to describe. His three-score years and ten were avowed to be an extra qualification for the presidency. He was likened to Gladstone and Bismarck, who ruled millions when eighty years of age.

We recognize that all of this is a severe strain upon our gullibility. We can see no similarity between the dignified, pious and poetical Gladstone and the frisky and profane slang singer from the Middle West. We think, too, that the Iron Chancellor, who welded a weak confederacy into a nation, was made of sterner stuff than the gentleman whose most notable achievements have been the suppression, as far as possible, of the House of Representatives in the interest of the meat packers and of the protected interests, and the strangulation of measures carrying appropriations to the South.

However, he is in the battle for the presidency, and his banner is floating to the breeze. It promises a perfect tariff about the time of the millennium. We make hold to predict that at the Chicago convention the Cannon boom will prove a very small explosion.

LOAN EXHIBITS AND THE TARIFF.  
The American Free Art League calls attention to the striking object lesson

furnished by the Copley Society's loan exhibition in favor of abolishing the duty on works of art.

The exhibition consists of 154 paintings, representing the French School of 1830, the insurance valuation of which is about \$1,000,000. For the most part they have come from private collections, and the owners have lent them for the benefit and education of the public. With very few exceptions, duties have been paid on all these paintings in spite of the fact that the public is a distinct gainer by their importation, as this exhibition proves.

Under our present tariff this collection of masterpieces, whose influence for good taste and for a better knowledge of art is immeasurable, could not be brought into this country to-day unless it paid a duty of \$250,000.

For three weeks the people of Boston and the outlying cities and towns will have an opportunity of enjoying and studying this valuable collection of pictures, which, aside from its intrinsic beauty, represents one of the most important eras in the history of modern art. This exhibition very well illustrates the fallacy of the argument that works of art are a luxury, that they are owned by the rich for their own exclusive enjoyment, and that therefore they should be dutiable.

As a matter of fact, these paintings are held in trust for the public by their owners, and instead of maintaining a barrier, such as the present duty certainly does, the government should offer every possible assistance and inducement to those who are able to do so to bring into the United States as many beautiful works of art as they can.

It is significant that the present important movement for free art in the United States, which is being conducted by the American Free Art League, should have had its origin in the Copley Society, which, through the expensiveness of its many notable loan exhibitions, has been able to realize and to prove the educational benefit to the people of private collections of works of art.

GOOD ROADS AND STATE PAPERS.

The Culpeper Enterprise and the Clarendon Herald both earnestly urge better roads for Virginia. The Clarendon Herald says that in the counties of Surry, Prince George, Charles City and Isle of Wight the roads are worse than at any time within the last four years. The Culpeper Enterprise follows the very useful course of printing for the benefit of its subscribers the United States government report on how to make and maintain a model earth road. The widest publicity should be given this sort of information, and the State papers could do nothing better than spread in their communities the knowledge of earth road building. Even were the money available, it would be impossible to macadamize all the roads at once, but a sensible use of a drag made of logs and a road scraper and open ditches on the sides of the road can and will transform the fearful sloughs of despond that now impede and retard the growth of the country districts into useful and convenient highways.

The theory that the housefly carries thousands of germs upon its feet may possibly be true of Chicago. But it falls utterly to the ground in Richmond, where the dainty and highbred houseflies have feet too small to support more than one to three germs each.

An English student of customs and manners says that there has never been a period when people were so interested in themselves. We suspect the gentleman has been reading of William Loeb's introspective messages to Congress.

Every fact that we noticed above a red tag yesterday wore the sobered expression of St. Paul's captain of the guard: "With a great price obtained I stand upon as a presidential candidate."

The Houston Post's diffident reference to "the ugly girls of Grand Old Texas" is of profound ethnological significance, as showing that the Truth and Texas are still on speaking terms.

The Washington Post prints an authoritative looking editorial on "Dignity and the Drama." We believe this is the first time the two have been associated for some years.

Cipriano Castro appears to be determined to find out at first hand whether or not the armor-plate on our battlehips is placed too low.

As we understand the ever enthusiastic administrators, the United States fleet is a perfect pippin because it can sail around South America without coming to pieces.

A Western woman has written a war song entitled "Four Years More of Teddy." We feel free to inform her that she can come and play it on Jake Rile's graphophone any time she wants.

"Doubts arose as to whether Mr. Hill would feel himself comfortable in the post of American ambassador," etc., etc. Now you see why a diplomat is called a diplomat, don't you?

As to that hold-up on the Santa Fe Road the other day, we have a good authority that Porter Erasmus Jackson is in possession of a flawless alibi.

The Populist party will hold its convention on the day after April Fool's Day. The Populists were careful to make it the day after, being able to spot a joke as far off as anybody else.

Prof. Edmund Hovey, who is going to Martinique to study the ways of volcanoes, might save distance by entraining himself for Arkansas points.

"Does the home team never lose in Richmond?" queries the Omaha Bee. And the Bee isn't trying to be sarcastic either.

Well, where would the country be if Emma Goldman could deliver a bite anywhere near in keeping with her bark?

The more they unalright the bill, the more people seem willing to stand for it.

Nevertheless, a few kind words from Charlemagne Tower's explanation by bureau would be thoroughly appreciated.

If meat goes higher, consumers will have to balloon for it.

Furthermore and forever, why is Haiti?

Rhymes for To-Day

THE TRUTH ABOUT SOPHY.

M Y SOPHY is the dearest little girlie,  
There's not a lady living like her,  
Yet she has faults; and when she's blue or surly,  
How she swears!

I love her more than Kate or Jane or Florrie,  
I love her till my bursting heart near chokes;  
And that's the thing that makes me, oh, so sorry  
That she smokes.

How happy 'do we start on woodland rambles!  
Could anything more sweet befall a chap?  
But soon the fact sweeps o'er me that she gambles  
And shoots a crap.

And then I always fly back to the city,  
And vainly try to get my forty winks—  
Aye, vainly—for I'm gambling with the pit!  
That she drinks.

H. S. H.

TOP-SHOTS AT THE TIMES-DISPATCH.

VIRGINIA timber for Virginia alone! shouts the Richmond Times-Dispatch. Would that this idea would spread to Nebraska would eliminate a lot of sawdust from the coming campaign.—Buffalo News.

The Religious Herald asks the Richmond Times-Dispatch the question, "Is not the salmon a nuisance?" and the Times-Dispatch promptly asks what salmon is. This is "a match."—Norfolk Landmark.

"It is easy to be cheerful at all times," says the Richmond Times-Dispatch. Does the home team never lose at Richmond?—Omaha Bee.

As far as that goes, what is the maculature of Helle de Sazan?—Richmond Times-Dispatch. To go a little further, what's the singular of hades?—Norfolk Landmark.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch makes the ungrateful remark that "A noleuses gun is nothing. What the country wants is a noleuses gun of a gun."—Scranton (Pa.) Republican.

The Richmond Times-Dispatch calls attention to the fact that St. Louis has been on the map for 114 years. The Times-Dispatch didn't say whose fault it was.—Nashville Tennessean.

New Yorkers are setting up at night nowadays to talk about "new big" streets, cars of the kind which have been running daily up and down the streets of Richmond for a long time. After careful and exhaustive study of the situation, we are ready to inform our readers that the other cities of the world usually arrive at a given point in five to eleven years behind old Richmond.—Richmond Times-Dispatch, Oh, perhaps. But, as Mabel Taliferro says: "Not setting up, Mandy."—New York Mail.

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Hay's Hair Health

RESTORES GRAY OR FADED HAIR TO ITS NATURAL COLOR AND BEAUTY

No matter how long it has been gray or faded. Promotes a luxuriant growth of healthy hair. Stops its falling out, and positively removes dandruff. Keeps hair soft and glossy. Refuses all substitutes. 2 1/2 times as much in \$1.00 as 50c size.

IS NOT A DYE.

Philo Hay Spec. Co. Newark, N. J.  
\$1 and 50c bottles, at druggists.

OWENS & MINOR DRUG COMPANY

hear of the merry one in the tall glass?"

H. E. McCleary, of York, Pa., and A. L. McCleary, of Newport News, members of the firm of Smyth Brothers-McCleary-McCleary Company, operating the Southern Stock Yards, are at the Richmond. They are delighted with the success of the new building here, which has made good and which is bringing hundreds of horse buyers to the city every week.

"The recent visit of Mr. Bryan to Richmond and the near approach of April 1st, reminds me of what I heard in Raleigh a few years ago," said N. M. Grant, of Cincinnati, at the Richmond. "On April Fool's morning the two newspapers came out with scarehead articles, saying that William Jennings Bryan would be in the city at 10 o'clock, that he would deliver an address in the park adjacent to the railroad station. Nobody stopped to think whether the Nebraska was in that territory, but everybody flocked to the park, and by 9 o'clock there were thousands of people waiting to hear about Bryan's visit, and a few more. They kept coming, piling in from all the side streets and wondering why no stand had been erected in the night. In a little while a train backed toward it, but there was no Bryan. It took the audience half an hour to take in the situation, but it finally dispersed. But I doubt if conditions would have been different to-day had Bryan been there."

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It will be revealed if Taft is nominated. But our sole hope of victory will come from the fact that Bryan will be named by the other party to run against him. I might be punished for making that saying, but I would rather make that saying with Roosevelt. The President's thirst for glory, his interference in matters which he ought not mix, has stripped him of much of his former popularity. I believe this, and I am not a disappointed office-seeker. But I am a Hughes man. The present Governor of New York, however, is the man with the animated whiskers, would be a powerful factor, and we could rely upon him without the risk of being deceived. Indeed, he would steal votes legitimately from the Democratic party more easily than we can walk out of a room. Let us hope, Mr. Lee, of Virginia; Randolph Harrison, of Lynchburg; F. H. Smith, Jr., of Staunton; and Charles C. Rowlett, of Fredericksburg, are at the Richmond.

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SOCIAL and PERSONAL

MRS. W. J. DURHAM gave members of the Woman's Club and their friends a "Peep Into the Orient" yesterday afternoon, and the glimpse proved most fascinating. The East with its mysteries, its customs and its strange